

**U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development
Office of Community Planning and Development**

OMB Approval No. 2506-0133 (exp.04/30/2007)

**Annual Progress Report (APR)
for Housing Opportunities for Persons
With AIDS (HOPWA)**

Housing Opportunities for Persons With AIDS (HOPWA) Annual Progress Report

Public reporting burden for this collection of information is estimated to average 65 hours per response, including the time for reviewing instructions, searching existing data sources, gathering and maintaining the data needed, and completing and reviewing the collection of information. This agency may not conduct or sponsor, and a person is not required to respond to, a collection of information unless that collection displays a valid OMB control number.

This information is collected under the authority of the AIDS Housing Opportunity Act (AHOA), as amended, 42 U.S.C. 12901, which authorizes HUD to provide States and localities with the resources and incentives to devise long-term comprehensive strategies for meeting the housing needs of persons living with acquired immune deficiency syndrome (AIDS) or HIV infection and their families. The statute includes the following items that necessitate the collection of this information: (1) the AHOA authorizes the Department to conduct a national competition for the award of funds for ten percent of the annual appropriation for the Housing Opportunities for Persons With AIDS (HOPWA) program; and (2) the AHOA requires that recipients of assistance report on the use of amounts received, including the number of individuals assisted, the types of assistance provided and other information determined to be appropriate by the Secretary. This notice applies to grants selected under the national competitions. HUD selects the highest rated applicants for special projects of national significance and applicants for projects that are part of long-term comprehensive strategies for providing housing and related services in areas that do not qualify for formula allocations. Annual Progress Reports provide HUD with essential information on project activities in reporting to Congress and the public on the use of program funds. In addition, the reports assist HUD Offices in monitoring the use of Federal funds, and ensuring statutory and regulatory compliance. Information is collected on an annual basis in the application to make selections and in the annual progress report to report on program activities based on statutory requirements at 42 U.S.C. 12903(b)(3) and 12911. Less frequent submission of information on program accomplishments, which is contained in the Annual Progress Report, could compromise the legal, efficient and effective implementation of the program. The information to be submitted by applicants and recipients is considered public information, except to the extent that applications contain personal or proprietary information or are in use for the competition during a covered use period under the HUD Reform Act.

General Instructions

Purpose. The Annual Progress Report (APR) tracks the accomplishments of the Housing Opportunities for Persons With AIDS (HOPWA) Program. This report will provide the grantee and HUD with important information necessary to assess the grantee's program.

Applicability. Grantees must complete this report for each program year in which HOPWA grant funds were expended. Each competitive grant should be reported in a separate APR.

Recordkeeping. An optional worksheet is included to assist grantees and project sponsors in recording the information necessary for completing this report. The worksheet may be used to record program information manually or to design a computer database to store and tabulate the information. Names and other individual information must be kept confidential, as required by 24 CFR 574.440. However, HUD reserves the right to review the information used to complete this report, except for names and other identifying information. **Information is reported in aggregate to HUD. Do not submit the worksheet to HUD.**

Operating Year. Grantees have flexibility in setting the dates of operating years. A grantee of a competitively-awarded grant may set the operating start date for its program on a date up to four months following the date of the signing of the grant agreement and any change requires the approval of HUD by amendment.

Organization of the Report. The information included in this report is organized in the following manner:

Part 1 Summary. This section provides an overview of the activities carried out. Grantees also describe any barriers encountered and their actions in response and recommendations for program improvements.

Part 2 Demographics. This part provides information on the characteristics of persons assisted by the program.

Part 3 Program Expenditures and Housing Provided. This part provides information on the financial status of the program including summary expenditure information and information on housing assistance and supportive services by each site and project sponsor.

Final Assembly of Report. After the entire report is assembled, please number every page sequentially.

Filing Requirements. The information in this package must be submitted to: (1) the CPID Division Director in the HUD Field Office 90 days after the end of each program year. Failure to submit an Annual Progress Report may lead to a delay in receiving future grant funds; and (2) an additional copy should be sent to:

HOPWA Program, Office of HIV/AIDS Housing
U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development
Office of Community Planning and Development
451 Seventh Street, SW Washington, D.C. 20410

**Housing Opportunities for Persons with AIDS (HOPWA)
Annual Progress Report**

Grant Number(s)	Program Year for this report From (mm/dd/yy) 04-01-04 To (mm/dd/yy) 03-31-05
Grantee Name State of Alabama	
Name of EMSA (if applicable) Alabama	
I hereby certify that all the information stated herein, as well as any information provided in the accompaniment herewith, is true and accurate. Warning: HUD will prosecute false claims and statements. Conviction may result in criminal and/or civil penalties. (18 U.S.C. 1001, 1010, 1012, 31U.S.C.3729,3802)	
Name & Title of Authorized Official Kathie M. Hiers, CEO	Signature & Date (mm/dd/yy)
Name & Title of the Person who can answer questions about this report Kevin Finney, Director of Operations	Phone (include area code) 205-324-9822
Address P.O. Box 55703, Birmingham, AL 35255	

Part 1 Summary.

Exhibit A - Overview of Accomplishments. (see attachment 1, page 13)

Please briefly describe the principal activities carried out during the program year on a page(s) attached to this report. List your specific objectives and briefly describe your success in meeting these objectives. Technical Assistance / Resource Development activities should be described in this section. Including information on how recipients of assistance were chosen and on what services were provided.

Exhibit B - Program Improvements. (see attachment 1)

Describe on a page(s) attached to this report:

(1) Barriers. Any barriers or difficulties that were encountered in implementing the program, including residents' concerns, and actions that were taken to address those issues: and

(2) Recommendations. Any recommendations that you may have for program improvements, including procedural, regulatory, or other changes, and how such improvements would assist eligible persons.

Part 2 Demographics.**Exhibit C - Numbers of Persons and Families Assisted During the Program Year with HOPWA Funds.**

1. Persons Assisted With Housing Assistance. In the table below, enter the number of persons who received housing assistance funded by HOPWA during the program year. Do not report on persons only receiving supportive services or persons only receiving housing information services. If a person's HIV status is unknown, count that person in (b).

a. Number of persons (adults and children) with HIV/AIDS who received housing assistance	194
b. Number of other persons in family units who received housing assistance	131
c. Total of persons who received housing assistance (a. plus b.)*	325

* Note that this number will be the basic participation number used for reporting other program information throughout the report, including the characteristics of persons assisted (Exhibit D).

2. Families Assisted With Housing Assistance. Of the total of persons assisted with housing assistance (1-c, above), how many family units were assisted (do not include single person households).

(Definition of Family: "Family" means a household composed of two or more related persons. The term "family" also includes one or more eligible persons living with another person or persons who are determined to be important to their care or well being, and the surviving member or members of any family described in this definition who were living in a unit assisted under the HOPWA program with the person with AIDS at the time of his/her death. [Section 574.3])

Total of family units assisted with housing assistance:

73

3. Persons Assisted With Supportive Services Only. In the table below, enter the number of persons who received only supportive services funded by HOPWA during the program year. Do not include persons who received supportive services in conjunction with housing assistance (1-c. above).

a. Number of persons (adults and children) with HIV/AIDS who received supportive services only	
b. Number of other persons in family units who received supportive services only	
c. Total of persons who received supportive services only (a. plus b.)	

4. Persons Receiving Housing Information Services. Enter the estimated number of persons who received housing information services funded by HOPWA during the program year. This number may include persons also reported above (1, 2, and 3).

Estimated total of persons receiving housing information services:

Exhibit D - Characteristics of Persons Receiving Housing Assistance During the Program Year.

Throughout this exhibit answer all questions regarding persons receiving HOPWA supported housing assistance during the year (i.e. persons reported in Exhibit C 1). Do not include information on persons only provided with supportive services or housing information

1. Demographics. All = 325

a. Age and gender. Of those who received housing assistance during the operating year, how many are in the following age and gender categories?

Persons	male	female
a. 17 years and under	62	47
b. 18 to 30 years	19	17
c. 31 to 50 years	94	71
d. 51 years and over	2	13

b. Hispanic/non-Hispanic. How many participants are in the following ethnic categories?

a. Hispanic	12
b. Non-Hispanic	313

c. Race. How many participants are in the following racial categories?

a. Asian/Pacific Islander	
b. Black	232
c. Native American or Alaskan Native	
d. White	81

d. Recent living situation. How many participants were in the following living situations immediately prior to entering the program? Include participants in the one category that best describes the participant's most recent living situation.

a. Homeless from the streets	1
b. Homeless from emergency shelters	
c. Transitional housing	1
d. Psychiatric facility*	
e. Substance abuse treatment facility*	
f. Hospital or other medical facility*	
g. Jail/prison *	
h. Domestic violence situation	
i. Living with relatives/friends	3
j. Rental housing	149
k. Participant-owned housing	26
l. Other (please specify)	

* If a participant or family head(s) of household came from one of these facilities but were there less than 30 days and were living on the street or in emergency shelter before entering the treatment facility, they should be counted in either the street or shelter category, as appropriate.

2. Incomes. For those receiving housing assistance, enter the number of individuals and family units falling under these income categories at the time of their entry into the program. (The total for this element may differ from the total in Exhibit C 1.)

	Gross Monthly Incomes at Entry in Program					
	\$0-250	\$251-500	\$501-1000	\$1001-1500	\$1501-2000	\$2001+
Number of individuals and family units	28	10	92	31	10	9

3. Reasons for leaving. Of those who left a program that provided housing assistance during the operating year and **are not expected to return** (do not include, for example, participants who temporarily left their housing for a brief period of hospitalization), complete the chart below based on how long they were in the program before leaving and the primary reason for their leaving the program. If a participant left for multiple reasons, *Include only the primary reason* for their departure.

Reason for Leaving	Number of Months in Program			
	less than 3	3 to 6	7 to 12	more than 12
a. Voluntary departure	3	3	6	2
b. Non-payment of rent	1		1	
c. Non-compliance with supportive service requirements			1	
d. Unknown/Disappeared		2	1	
e. Criminal activity / destruction of property / violence		2	6	2
f. Death	2	1	2	1
g. Other (please specify) Reached program eligibility		6		

Part 3 Program Expenditures and Housing Provided.

Expenditures are amounts spent for eligible activities. Do not include non-HOPWA sources or in-kind items, such as the value of services or materials provided by volunteers or by other individuals or organizations.

Exhibit E - Summary of Program Expenditures.

This exhibit will provide information about available HOPWA funds and HOPWA expenditures for the program during the reporting period.

Include only expenditures made from a single competitively-awarded HOPWA grant. Please round dollar amounts to the nearest dollar.

HOPWA Funding Available	
1. Unexpended HOPWA funds at end of previous report period (this balance is 0 in the first year of program)	1,073,652
2. Amount of HOPWA grant received during period	1,139,000
3. Program income (e.g., loan repayments)	9,736
4. Total of HOPWA funds available during period (sum of lines 1 thru 3)	2,222,388

Also report the following aggregate totals by type of activity for the report period (totals equal all expenditures of HOPWA funds during this period):

HOPWA Expenditures (Totals by Eligible Activity)	
5. Expenditures for Housing Information Services	19,803
6. Expenditures for Resource Identification	19,747
7. Expenditures for Housing Assistance (equals the sum of all sites and scattered-site Housing Assistance reported in Exhibit G.)	460,794
8. Expenditures for Supportive Services (equals the sum of all Exhibit H funds used)	342,762
9. Grantee Administrative Costs expended	42,245
10. Project Sponsor(s) Administrative Costs expended	66,022
11. Total of HOPWA funds expended during period (sum of lines 5 thru 10)	951,373
12. Balance of HOPWA funds at end of report period (line 4 minus line 11)	1,271,016

Exhibit F - Units of Housing Assistance.

For housing assistance provided in facilities, including project-based rental assistance, complete Item 1. For housing assistance payments, either tenant-based rental assistance or short-term payments, complete Item 2.

1. Units by type of housing facility. Report the number of units that were used during the program year by number of bedrooms. Enter the number of units of project-based rental assistance under the appropriate type of facility.

Type of housing facility	Units by number of Bedrooms						
	SRO	0 bdrm	1 bdrm	2 bdrms	3 bdrms	4 bdrms	5+ bdrms
a. Short-term facility							
b. Single room occupancy dwelling							
c. Community residence							
d. Other housing facility (specify):							

2. Units by type of housing assistance payment. Report the number of units that were used during the program year by number of bedrooms. Count each unit assisted as one entry regardless of the number of monthly payments made for that unit.

Type of housing assistance payment	Units by Number of Bedroom size						
	SRO	0 bdrm	1 bdrm	2 bdrms	3 bdrms	4 bdrms	5+ bdrms
a. Tenant-based rental assistance – long term	3		23	49	22	4	
b. Short-term rent, mortgage and utility payments - emergency	1		21	36	20	1	

(Note: This page summarizes information provided on each site or activity location in Exhibit G.)

Exhibit G - Housing Assistance Expenditures.

1. Facility Based Housing Assistance. For each site, provide information on development actions and actual HOPWA expenditures for a facility during the report period. Such facilities include community residences, SRO dwellings, short-term facilities, and other housing facilities approved by HUD, and non-housing based facilities. A site may include more than one structure or type of facility. All expenditures for acquisition, rehabilitation/conversion, lease, repairs, new construction, operating costs and technical assistance for a facility should be reported in this exhibit. (Please do not include funding for related supportive services; these services are reported in Exhibit H. Except for administrative costs for community residences supported by a 1992 grant, all grantee and project sponsor administrative expenses are reported in Exhibit E. Housing information services and resource identification are also reported in Exhibit E.)

1-a Site Information.

Name of project AGAPE House, AGAPE II, Next Step, Rural Studio, JASPER House	Name and Address of project sponsor AIDS Alabama, Inc. P.O. Box 55703 Birmingham, AL 35255
Address/location of site Addresses on file at Birmingham Sponsor	

1-b Site development actions. For each site, provide the following dates or other information. (Do not submit if a previous annual progress report indicated that all activities at this site were completed and that services had been initiated.)

a. Date of closing on purchase of building or execution of lease	e. Date new construction was completed
b. Date rehabilitation started	f. Date operations staff was hired
c. Date rehabilitation was completed	g. Date residents began to occupy
d. Date new construction started	h. Date supportive services began

1-c Units by type of housing facility.

Indicate the type of housing that was provided (i.e., enter one of the following: Short-term facility, SRO dwelling, Community residence, or specify another type of housing facility).

Type of housing facility	Units by number of Bedrooms						
	SRO	0 bdrm	1 bdrm	2bdrms	3 bdrms	4 bdrms	5+bdrms
a. Short-term facility							
b. Single room occupancy dwelling							
c. Community residence							
d. Other housing facility (specify):							

1-d Expenditures by facility site. Enter the amount of HOPWA funds expended during the operating year for the activities listed below.

Type of activity	HOPWA Funds
a. Acquisition	
b. Rehabilitation/conversion/repair	
c. Lease	
d. New construction (community residences/SRO dwellings only)	
e. Operating costs	165,859
f. Technical assistance (community residences only)	2,160
g. Project-based rental assistance	
h. Other (specify)	
i. HOPWA Total for this site	168,019

Exhibit G - Housing Assistance Expenditures.

1. Facility Based Housing Assistance. For each site, provide information on development actions and actual HOPWA expenditures for a facility during the report period. Such facilities include community residences, SRO dwellings, short-term facilities, and other housing facilities approved by HUD, and non-housing based facilities. A site may include more than one structure or type of facility. All expenditures for acquisition, rehabilitation/conversion, lease, repairs, new construction, operating costs and technical assistance for a facility should be reported in this exhibit. (Please do not include funding for related supportive services; these services are reported in Exhibit H. Except for administrative costs for community residences supported by a 1992 grant, all grantee and project sponsor administrative expenses are reported in Exhibit E. Housing information services and resource identification are also reported in Exhibit E.)

1-a Site Information.

Name of project Magnolia Place	Name and Address of project sponsor AIDS Alabama, Inc. P.O. Box 55703 Birmingham, AL 35255
Address/location of site 124 North Ann Street Mobile, AL 36604	

1-b Site development actions. For each site, provide the following dates or other information. (Do not submit if a previous annual progress report indicated that all activities at this site were completed and that services had been initiated.)

a. Date of closing on purchase of building or execution of lease	e. Date new construction was completed
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b. Date rehabilitation started	f. Date operations staff was hired
c. Date rehabilitation was completed	g. Date residents began to occupy
d. Date new construction started	h. Date supportive services began

1-c Units by type of housing facility.

Indicate the type of housing that was provided (i.e., enter one of the following: Short-term facility, SRO dwelling, Community residence, or specify another type of housing facility).

Type of housing facility	Units by number of Bedrooms						
	SRO	0 bdrm	1 bdrm	2bdrms	3 bdrms	4 bdrms	5+bdrms
a. Short-term facility							
b. Single room occupancy dwelling							
c. Community residence							
d. Other housing facility (specify):							

1-d Expenditures by facility site. Enter the amount of HOPWA funds expended during the operating year for the activities listed below.

Type of activity	HOPWA Funds
a. Acquisition	
b. Rehabilitation/conversion/repair	
c. Lease	
d. New construction (community residences/SRO dwellings only)	
e. Operating costs	25,112
f. Technical assistance (community residences only)	
g. Project-based rental assistance	
h. Other (specify)	
i. HOPWA Total for this site	25,112

2. Scattered-Site Housing Assistance. For housing assistance provided through tenant-based rental assistance and short-term rent, mortgage, and utility payments, submit this form for **each** project carrying out scattered-site housing assistance.

1-a Name and address of project sponsor

AIDS Alabama
P.O. Box 55703
Birmingham, AL 35255

2-b General location(s) of activity

Statewide

2-c Implementation actions. For the project, provide the following dates. (Do not submit if a previous annual progress report indicated that housing assistance and services had been initiated.)

a. Date residents began to use payments (mm/dd/yy)	
b. Date supportive services began (mm/dd/yy)	

2-d Units by type of housing assistance payments. Report the number of units that were used during the program year by number of bedrooms. Count each unit assisted as one entry regardless of the number of monthly payments made for that unit.

Type of housing assistance payment	Units by Number of Bedrooms						
	SRO	0 bdrm	1 bdrm	2 bdrms	3 bdrms	4 bdrms	5+ bdrms
a. Tenant-based rental assistance	3		23	49	22	4	
b. Short-term rent, mortgage and utility payments	1		21	36	20	1	

2-e Expenditures by type of housing assistance payment. Enter the amount of HOPWA funds expended during the operating year for the activities listed below.

Type of housing assistance payment	HOPWA Funds
a. Tenant-based rental assistance	156,522
b. Short-term rent, mortgage and utility payments	111,142

Exhibit H- Supportive Service Expenditures.

Submit this form for each project carrying out supportive services activities. *

Name and Address of project sponsor

AIDS Alabama

P.O. Box 55703

Birmingham, AL 35255

General location(s) of activity

Staewide

Date services began: 04/01/03

Enter amount for supportive services(s) which apply	Amount
1. Outreach	342,762
2. Case management/client advocacy/access to benefits/services	
3. Life management (outside of case management)	
4. Nutritional services/meals	
5. Adult day care and personal assistance	
6. Child care and other children services	
7. Education	
8. Employment assistance	
9. Alcohol and drug abuse services	
10. Mental health services	
11. Health/medical/intensive care services	
12. Permanent housing placement	
13. Other (specify)	
14. HOPWA total for this sponsor	342,762

*For each project sponsor or for the grant in total, report on the amounts expended by type of activity. In cases where multiple activities are carried out by the sponsor and records do not reflect actual expenditures by individual services, provide the total amount expended by the sponsor during the reporting period and an estimate of the amounts by type of activity or, aggregate the amount reported under the primary type of service provided by the sponsor.

**HOPWA 2004 Performance Summary
Submitted by AIDS Alabama (Sponsor)
State of Alabama Department of Economic and Community Affairs (Grantee)
Submitted to U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development
Alabama Field Office**

A. HOPWA Grantee Narrative

AIDS Alabama, project sponsor, submits annually to the State of Alabama Department of Economic and Community Affairs an Action Plan that is consistent with the state consolidated plan to assist persons with AIDS to access and maintain housing. AIDS Alabama works closely with state and local community representatives to ensure needs are identified on a broad scale. AIDS Alabama also collaborates and sub-contracts HOPWA funding to the following AIDS Service Organizations in the state of Alabama:

- Birmingham AIDS Outreach-Birmingham;
- AIDS Action Coalition – Huntsville;
- Health Services Center – Anniston;
- West Alabama AIDS Outreach – Tuscaloosa;
- East Alabama AIDS Outreach – Auburn;
- Montgomery AIDS Outreach – Montgomery;
- Selma AIDS Information and Referral – Selma; and
- Mobile AIDS Support Services – Mobile.

In program year 2004, HOPWA funds were used for the following programs:

1. Statewide Rental Assistance Program

This program funds both short-term and long-term rental assistance. There were one-thousand and twenty-two (1,022) instances of rental assistance in the past year. Clients access this program by visiting one of the eight AIDS Service Organizations in the state of Alabama and completing an application with a HOPWA-certified and trained staff member of that agency. The HOPWA certification process requires a daylong training program.

Input from representatives from these agencies combined with data from needs assessments drive the protocols used in the rental assistance program. Since the program began in 1994, there have been a number of adjustments made to the program to balance the amount of funds available with the ultimate goal of avoiding homelessness, keeping families stably housed, and consumer empowerment to succeed in a permanent housing setting. To that end, there have been a series of changes that have resulted in slightly different implementations of the program around the state described below. AIDS Alabama never seeks a change to the rental assistance program without:

- 1) input from all the subcontractors and
- 2) a minimum of a 30-day notice to all agencies. (Program implementation remains compliant with HOPWA regulations.)

The applications are sent via facsimile to AIDS Alabama offices and processed within seventy-two (72) hours. Rental checks are sent to landlords with a return self-addressed envelope requesting a receipt of the rent check be sent to AIDS Alabama to be applied to that person's rent for the month. If a landlord does not return this receipt, investigators from AIDS Alabama look into the reasons why and ensure that the rent was indeed paid for the appropriate applicant. Applicants must re-apply and supply proof of need for each month of assistance, up to five months (or 21 weeks) in an assistance year for the Short-Term Rental, Mortgage, and Utility assistance program. Long-term rental assistance is similar to Section 8 with the resident responsible for a portion of the rent, based on the resident's income. Clients are expected to maintain quarterly contact with their social workers, as well as pay the appropriate portion of the rent and maintain utilities. The rental assistance programs will be supplemented by the HOPWA entitlement for the Birmingham-Hoover Metropolitan Statistical Area. In excess of \$300,000 was expended in the prior fiscal year to ensure that low-income, HIV-positive individuals and families were able to maintain their permanent housing.

ASONA, the AIDS Services Organization Network of Alabama, serves as AIDS Alabama's HOPWA planning council. At present both the short-term emergency assistance program and the long-term rental assistance programs are in effect. AIDS Alabama requires annual certification of these programs in order to access either form of rental assistance.

2. Support Existing Housing Programs in the State – Supportive Services

This support includes supportive services such as transportation, case management, first month's rent and deposits, and housing outreach as per HOPWA and HUD guidelines. AIDS Alabama provides these services in Birmingham and subcontracts for these

services with eight other AIDS Service Organizations across the state.

Supportive services are needed to assist persons with HIV/AIDS in maintaining housing. In FY 2004 the Birmingham area provided eighteen thousand seven hundred and forty-eight (18,748) units of transportation and case management services to seven hundred twenty-five (725) individuals/families. Across the state more than 11,000 low-income individuals/families living with the HIV virus were assisted through case management services, individualized housing plans, transportation assistance, emergency housing and financial assistance, and many other supportive services necessary to keeping HIV-positives person healthy and stably housed. These services mean that residents already in housing receive the necessary services to stay housed and healthy. A thorough assessment of applicants for HIV-specific housing is conducted. This assessment allows the case manager to design an individualized plan of care with each applicant, which meets his/her needs and increases his/her capacity to maintain stable housing.

3. Support Ongoing Housing Information Efforts in the State

These funds support various AIDS Service Organizations to promote the availability of housing assistance statewide. Outreach to rural areas has been dramatically increased due to the identification of growing numbers of persons infected in rural areas who have difficulty accessing services. Outreach creates an easier bridge for persons who may mistrust others offering assistance to the various programs and services that exist. Reaching people in all sixty-seven (67) counties is done in conjunction with the existing HOPWA Competitive grant also implemented by AIDS Alabama, offering outreach and linkage to services to persons in the most rural counties in the state.

In combination with the AIDS Service Organizations across the state, these funds are also used to create marketing materials to be used during outreach activities for the benefit of other providers who may have HIV-positive clients that are in need of housing but do not know where to refer for services. This funding will also create materials targeting consumers in order to ensure they are aware of HOPWA services. Outreach is critical in all areas but most critical in rural areas of the state where knowledge of available services may be lower.

4. Technical Assistance

AIDS Alabama used funds to provide technical assistance to the state's AIDS Service Organization Network. Specifically, these dollars are used to support AIDS Alabama staff time to work with the following agencies: Mobile AIDS Support Services in Mobile, AL; Montgomery AIDS Outreach in Montgomery; Selma AIDS Information and Referral in Selma; East Alabama AIDS Outreach in Auburn; West Alabama AIDS Outreach in Tuscaloosa; Health Services Center in Anniston; and AIDS Action Coalition in Huntsville. Currently few organizations have experience in providing housing services. AIDS Alabama will use technical assistance funds to provide training to AIDS Service Organizations regarding housing implementation.

AIDS Alabama staff also provides technical assistance to AIDS service organizations, civic groups, and social service agencies statewide. AIDS Alabama worked in collaboration with Auburn University School of Architecture and East Alabama AIDS Outreach, to plan construction of a second rural studio, providing housing for individuals living with HIV/AIDS in a rural setting.

5. Support Operating Costs of Existing Housing

These funds were used for operating costs for the 127 permanent beds statewide and 47 transitional beds available statewide. All of these units currently exist and provide housing to individuals and families living with HIV/AIDS. These funds cover furnishings, supplement utilities, provide property management expenditures (lawn care, basic maintenance, and repair), provide security services, and provide support to ensure appropriate upkeep for all HIV-specific permanent and transitional housing in the state as described above.

6. Support Resource Identification Efforts

These funds fund an expanded effort to promote and provide identification of low-income transitional and permanent housing units in the state and to enhance the low-income housing development for persons/families living with HIV/AIDS. The development of HIV/AIDS specific affordable housing is necessary, particularly in the many rural areas of this state. This funding will assist in the marketing, planning, and development of affordable housing in Alabama.

7. Oversight

The Alabama Department of Economic and Community Affairs (ADECA) and the State of Alabama Department of Housing and Urban Development conduct grant oversight through ongoing written and verbal communication. Annual monitoring visits are also conducted by both agencies. AIDS Alabama was chosen as the project sponsor because of the agency's statewide presence and proven grant administration record. Each subcontractor is monitored by AIDS Alabama annually to ensure contract compliance.

8. Collaborative Efforts and Other Resources

AIDS Alabama is a member agency of the AIDS Service Organization Network of Alabama (ASONA) that consists of nine other service organizations. These collaborative relationships and AIDS Alabama's experience working with this population were critical in its selection as project sponsor. AIDS Alabama is also active in local and state planning groups that serve the HIV/AIDS population including the Governor's Commission on HIV and Central Alabama Ryan White Consortium. AIDS Alabama staff also provides technical assistance to AIDS service organizations, civic groups, and social service agencies statewide.

B. Project Accomplishment Overview

Goal #1: Support a statewide rental assistance program through qualified AIDS service agencies.

Objective: Provide 450 units of assistance at an average of \$275 per unit for five months emergency or short-term rent or mortgage payments to prevent homelessness and support existing AIDS housing in the state.

Accomplishments:

1. AIDS Alabama provided 325 units of assistance at an average of \$312 per living unit for three months of emergency rental assistance for permanent housing. One household unit can access the rental assistance program five times annually. AIDS Alabama sees this result as a positive accomplishment. All individuals accessing the program are required to develop a long-term housing plan with each application.
2. AIDS Alabama currently provides 101 units of long-term HOPWA rental assistance. Participants in this program can access the program monthly. Traditionally this program rarely had new enrollees because it is only available to individuals or families with chronic conditions. In an effort to provide more permanent housing, AIDS Alabama has begun to enroll more individuals in the long-term program.
3. Funds from the 2004 HOPWA year were also used to cover operating costs for 127 permanent beds statewide and 47 transitional beds available statewide. These costs include furnishings, utilities, property management, and maintenance for housing units.

Goal #2: Support existing housing programs in the state.

Objective: Provide supportive services such as transportation and case management. AIDS Alabama provides these services in Birmingham and contracted for these services across the state.

Accomplishments:

1. Funds were used to employ eight HOPWA case managers in six (6) AIDS Service Organizations (ASO) across the state. Each organization provides case management services and outreach services specific to their community's needs. The following are some of the services provided: housing and social service referrals, linkage of qualified individuals with HOPWA rental assistance programs, provision of life skills training to individuals with multiple needs, assistance to clients who participate in alcohol and drug abuse rehabilitation in acquiring and maintaining housing, provision of housing and supportive services to HIV positive inmates being discharged from Limestone Prison, and assistance to individuals in planning for end of life care.
2. The following services were supplemented by HOPWA funding:
 - o 22,502 units of transportation to housing and social service appointments,
 - o 8,275 nights of permanent housing for families
 - o 6,445 nights of housing for Agape House and 5,897 for Agape II residents (both permanent), and
 - o 13,942 nights of transitional housing.

Goal #3: Support ongoing housing information efforts in the state.

Objective: Provide housing information services to individuals and community service providers statewide.

Accomplishments:

1. HOPWA funds were used to support the availability of housing assistance statewide, including outreach to rural areas. As a result of subcontracts:
 - o Information contacts were made with incarcerated, HIV positive persons in Limestone Prison, Tutwiler Prison, and the Birmingham City Jail. Due to the addition of a rural outreach worker contacts were also made with St. Clair County Prison, as well as Blount, Shelby, Walker, and St. Clair County jails.
 - o Education and Outreach services were provided to 78 secondary prevention venues, 36 homeless shelters, 36 corrections facilities, 25 youth detention centers and 121 schools and the general public venues.

- 8,543 individuals received HIV education and were supplied housing information.

2. Monthly trainings were held for Community Outreach Workers in the Alabama Rural AIDS Project (ARAP) to better coordinate housing and services for HIV positive individuals in rural areas of the state.
3. HOPWA funds provided for the publication and distribution of one quarterly newsletter to allow for the distribution of housing information through the mail.
4. HOPWA funds were used to provide six trainings for HOPWA rental assistance program managers and service workers.

Goal #4: Provide technical assistance training around housing development in Alabama.

Objective: Assist AIDS Service Organizations in the state in development of capacity around appropriate use of rental assistance funds, in development of new housing, and in planning the state's response to housing needs for persons with HIV/AIDS.

Accomplishments:

1. AIDS Alabama worked in collaboration with Auburn University School of Architecture and East Alabama AIDS Outreach, to plan construction of a second rural studio, providing housing for individuals living with HIV/AIDS in a rural setting.

Goal #5: Support resource identification efforts.

Objective: Provide identification of low-income, permanent housing options in the state for persons and families living with HIV.

Accomplishments:

1. HOPWA resource identification funds were used to pay travel and expenses to send AIDS Alabama staff to national and state meeting related to housing individuals with HIV/AIDS including: the National AIDS Housing Coalition and HOPWA grantee meetings.
2. Initiated plans and a proposal to build seven (7) permanent supportive family housing facilities on property previously purchased with HUD funding for development.

C. Other Accomplishments

HOPWA funds are used to supplement our Supportive Housing Programs, which provide transitional housing as well as permanent housing for five family housing units. Our substance abuse program, housed in the Rectory, includes a step-down program. This program offers an additional step for individuals in substance abuse treatment prior to moving on to other transitional or permanent housing. Both programs have operating costs which are supplemented with HOPWA funding.

In May 2005, AIDS Alabama hired a full-time rural outreach worker/case manager. As a licensed social worker, this employee is responsible for identifying consumers in rural Jefferson County as well as Shelby, Blount, St. Clair, and Walker Counties and bringing them into care and housing.

Plans for a new Rural Studio Project are underway. A new three-bedroom community residence in Lee County, Alabama, the Rural Studio, will be built in collaboration with Auburn University School of Architecture and East Alabama AIDS Outreach. The rural studio provides housing for individuals living with HIV/AIDS in a rural setting.

D. Barriers or Trends Overview

The barriers for persons living with HIV/AIDS to access services include discrimination, access to healthcare due to geography, transportation, knowledge, and lack of resources. Discrimination against persons living with HIV includes loss of employment, housing, disengagement of families whose members test positive, and some systemic policies/procedures. While it is illegal to take some of these actions, people still lose their housing on the spot, get fired or turned away from employment, or face attack because of their HIV-positive status. These events are more than anecdotal. In the recent AIDS Alabama statewide needs assessment, 11% of respondents indicated that HIV discrimination was a *constant* stressor in their lives. Thirty-eight per cent experienced unstable housing situations after their HIV diagnosis. Families are still avoiding support of members who are HIV-positive by not allowing them to live with them and by disconnecting any form of psycho-social or financial support.

Persons living in very rural settings are often removed from access to medical clinics. Identification of these persons is difficult given the desire by most persons to remain confidential about their HIV-status, if known.

AIDS Alabama has seen a recent trend in diminishing funding for supportive services. In FY 2004, supportive service funding provided for over 22, 000 units of transportation and case management services to over 400 individuals/families. These services mean that residents already in housing receive the necessary services to stay housed. A thorough assessment of applicants for HIV-specific housing is conducted which includes a psychological screening. The assessment allows the case manager to design a care plan in conjunction with the individual/family to meet their needs and to increase their capacity to maintain stable housing.

Lack of decent, safe, affordable housing continues to be a problem for individuals living with HIV disease in the State of Alabama. In developing HIV specific housing, typically units that are decent and safe are not always affordable and vice versa. Relapse rate for substance abuse is often affected by the location of affordable housing. In addition due to HUD regulations limiting assistance to persons in permanent housing, AIDS Alabama has seen a dramatic decrease in the number of applications for rental assistance.

Housing opportunities for newly released inmates has become a serious problem as well. It is estimated that 1,600 prisoners are released daily from prisons all over the country with 30-50 % being homeless upon release. Ex-prisoners face the same problems as others looking for housing coupled with the problems of having a criminal background. One problem that is unique to newly released inmates is that most subsidized housing programs have screening processes in place which limit their housing choices, such as criminal background checks or restrictions on neighborhoods close to schools and child care centers. With less post-release assistance available to prisoners many newly released individuals do not have money for security deposits or rent to obtain permanent housing once returned to society. AIDS Alabama has experienced a vast increase in the number of recently released prisoners applying for housing, added to already limited resources. There is not enough housing available to meet this new need.

Response:

In response to the barrier, AIDS Alabama continues to participate in local, state and national groups with the hope of educating the public about how the disease is spread and the need for affordable housing for all persons. The agency also continues to contact key community leaders and to participate in agency decision-making as well as local, state, and federal planning groups to represent the needs of the population.

Without federal funding, technical assistance and resource identification efforts would be impossible.

HUD HOPWA Annual Progress Report Worksheet

This worksheet is optional and is intended to help you collect project information needed to complete Part II of the HOPWA Annual Progress Report. It should not be submitted to HUD. However, HUD reserves the right to request or review the information used to complete the report, except for names and identifying information. See Worksheet Instructions for directions on using this worksheet. Please keep a file of "other information" (item 14 below) to specify on the annual report. Names and personal data on participants must be kept confidential; a unique identifying code could be used to track participants. For families, list the head of household first and aggregate family information following that entry. Other family members can be sequentially listed to provide space for demographic information. As described in this instructions for the worksheet, codes are used for entries in items 9 to 12.

1. Participant's Name or Unique ID Code (if any)	2. Date entering program	3. Number of adults (18+) residing with participant	4. Number of children residing with participant	5. Race (A, B, NA, W)	6. Hispanic/ non - Hispanic (H or N)	7. Age (at entry) and /sex	8. Gross monthly income	9. Recent living situation	10. Date leaving program	11. Reason for Departure	12. Housing facility type and unit size by number of bedrooms	13 Housing assistance payment and unit size by number of bedrooms	14. Other Information

Codes: Enter appropriate number(s) in the column above. (See back of page for codes.)

HOPWA Annual Progress Report Worksheet

Information is reported in aggregate to HUD. Do not submit this worksheet to HUD.

This worksheet is optional and is intended to help you collect project information needed to complete the HOPWA Annual Progress Report. Please keep a list of "other" answers to specify on the annual report.

1. Enter the participant's full name or a unique identification code (if any). The use of names and other personal identification must be kept confidential. Information on the family unit should be captured with the first participant listed. The additional members of the family unit should be separately listed for items 5, 6, and 7.

2. Enter date participant entered the HOPWA program. Usually, this will be the date of consultation with a case manager.

3. Enter the number of additional adult (18 years and older) family members residing with the participant, who are also receiving housing assistance. Enter "0" if the participant resides alone. Other eligible beneficiaries residing in shared housing should be separately reported.

4. Enter the number of additional children (under 18 years) who are family members residing with the participant, receiving housing assistance. Enter "0" if the participant resides alone.

5. For each participant, enter race (A = Asian/Pacific Islander, B = Black, NA = Native American/Alaskan Native, or W White).

6. For each participant, enter Hispanic or non-Hispanic (H = Hispanic or N = non-Hispanic)

7. For each participant, enter age at entry into program and sex (M = Male or F = Female) and age; ages will be reported as under 18 years, 18 through 30 years, 31 through 50 years, and 51 years and older.

8. Enter the amount of gross monthly income that the participant or the family unit receives on the average at entry into the program; incomes will be reported as \$0 to 250, \$251 to 500, \$501 to 1000, \$1001 to 1500, \$1501 to 2000, or \$2001 + per month.

9. Enter the participant's most recent living situation prior to program entry.

- a. Homeless from the streets
- b. Homeless from shelters
- c. Transitional housing facilities
- d. Psychiatric facilities *
- e. Substance abuse treatment facility*
- f. Hospitals or other medical facilities*
- g. Jail or prison *
- h. Domestic violence situation

i. Living with relative or friend

j. Rental housing

k. Participant-owned housing

l. Other; specify type

* If a person (from Exhibit C) came from a treatment facility but they were there less than 30 days and were in another living situation before they entered the treatment facility, they should be counted as though they were still in the prior living situation.

10. Enter date participant or family ended program participation.

11. When the participant or family left the HOPWA assisted program, what was the primary reason for the departure and how long were they in the program. Enter the code and number of months in the program, less than 3, 3 to 6, 7 to 12, greater than 12 months, which indicates:

- a. Voluntary departure
- b. Non-payment of rent
- c. Non-compliance with supportive service requirements
- d. Unknown/disappeared
- e. Criminal activity/destruction of property/violence
- f. Death
- g. Other (please specify)

12. Enter the type of housing facility and unit size by number of bedrooms used. Count each family unit as a single entry. Enter the code which indicates type and number of bedrooms as SRO, 0, 1, 2, 3, 4, or 5+.

- a. Short-term facility.
- b. Single room occupancy (SRO) dwelling.
- c. Community residence.
- d. Other housing facility (please specify).

13. Enter the type of housing assistance payment and unit size by number of bedrooms used. Enter the code which indicates type and unit size by number of bedrooms as SRO, 0, 1, 2, 3, 4, 5+.

- a. Tenant-based rental assistance.
- b. Short-term rent, mortgage and utility payments.

14. Enter other information as necessary.

Do not submit this worksheet to HUD.